



News from Stamford Public Schools

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EMBARGOED until the State Department of Education releases statewide results (expected on Friday, July 20, 2012).

STUDENTS IN STAMFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS POST DOUBLE DIGIT GAINS ON CONNECTICUT MASTERY TEST

Increases reflect five year progress in math, reading, and science at multiple grade levels

Results of the Spring 2012 Connecticut Mastery Test (CMT) indicate a five year upward trend in student scores. Particular gains were seen in math in grades 6, 7, and 8; in reading in grades 4 and 8; and in science in grades 5 and 8.

“For the past several years, we have focused intensely and exclusively on giving all students access to rigorous, standards-based curricula,” said Superintendent of Schools Dr. Winnie Hamilton. “We have accomplished this through both district funding as well as the GE Foundation’s infusion of resources in support of our initiatives. Consequently, we have been able to dramatically improve our professional development and by extension, the quality of our instruction. I am very pleased with the overall results this year while also being cognizant of the work we have yet to do.”

Between 2008 and 2012, math scores increased by double digits across the grades at the middle school level. Gains were most striking at the Goal and Proficient levels in grade 6 (+12 and +11 respectively); at Goal in grade 7 (+11); and at Proficient in grade 8 (+10).

Over the past five years in reading, students achieved double digit gains at the Goal and Proficient levels in grade 4 (+10 and +10 respectively) and at Goal and Proficient in grade 8 (+12 and +11 respectively).

During the same time period in science, student scores increased substantially at Goal in grades 5 and 8 (+11 and +10 respectively).

As another indicator of progress, the percentage of students scoring at the Advanced level in math and reading has increased between 2008 and 2012:

Percentage of Students Scoring at the Advanced Level on the CMTs			
MATH			
	2008-2009	2011-2012	Increase
Grade 3	25%	30%	+5
Grade 4	25%	31%	+6
Grade 5	30%	39%	+9
Grade 6	22%	36%	+14
Grade 7	23%	29%	+6
Grade 8	19%	23%	+4
READING			
Grade 3	14%	24%	+10
Grade 7	22%	29%	+7
Grade 8	16%	25%	+9



In addition to seeing substantial gains across grades and subject areas, educators in Stamford Public Schools have noted reductions in the achievement gap over the past seven years. Higher performing students have continued to improve even while the achievement gap has narrowed.

Reduction of the Achievement Gap in Grades 3-8 in Math, Reading, and Writing			
	2005-2006	2011-2012	Reduction
Math	41.5%	24.4%	-17.1
Reading	38.2%	26.8%	-11.4
Writing	27.4%	21.3%	-6.1

Student scores on the writing portion of the CMT remained stable, as did student performance on the math, reading, writing, and science portions of the Connecticut Academic Performance Test (CAPT). Going forward, these areas require an increased focus on instructional improvements.

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